

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for responding to a client request for an object in a data processing network, comprising:

determining whether a static object form response corresponding to the requested object is available;

responsive to determining that a form response is available, updating a header in the form response based on the client request;

responsive to determining that a form response is not available:

generating a response to the client request by retrieving the requested object and performing network protocol processing on the retrieved object;

generating a form response indicative of the generated response; and

storing the form response for use in responding to a subsequent request for the object.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein generating the request response comprises generating a set of packets formatted according to a network protocol.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the network protocol is a TCP/IP protocol.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the generating the form response further includes inserting at least one blank header field into the set of packets.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether a form response is available includes accessing a static object directory indicative of the contents of a static object database.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein storing the form response comprises storing the form response in the static object database and updating the static object directory to reflect the inclusion of the form response in the database.

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7. The method of claim 1, further comprising, responsive to a subsequent request for the object, generating a response to the subsequent request from the form response.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein generating the subsequent response includes updating header fields of the form response.

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9. The method of claim 6, wherein the at least a portion of the static object database is stored in main memory.

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10. The method of claim 6, wherein at least a portion of the static object database is stored on disk.

11. A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium for responding to a client request for an object in a data processing network, comprising:

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computer code means for determining whether a static object form response corresponding to the requested object is available;

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computer code means for updating a header in the form response based on the client request responsive to determining that a form response is available;

responsive to determining that a form response is not available:

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computer code means for generating a response to the client request by retrieving the requested object and performing network protocol processing on the retrieved object;

generating a form response indicative of the generated response; and

computer code means for storing the form response for use in responding to a subsequent request for the object.

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12. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein generating the request response comprises generating a set of packets formatted according to a network protocol.

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13. The computer program product of claim 12, wherein the network protocol is a TCP/IP protocol.

14. The computer program product of claim 12, wherein the generating the form response further includes inserting at least one blank header field into the set of packets.

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15. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein determining whether a form response is available includes accessing a static object directory indicative of the contents of a static object database.

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16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein storing the form response comprises storing the form response in the static object database and updating the static object directory to reflect the inclusion of the form response in the database.

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17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of the static object database is stored in main memory.

18. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of the static object database is stored on disk.

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19. The computer program product of claim 11, further comprising, responsive to a subsequent request for the object, generating a response to the subsequent request from the form response.

20. The computer program product of claim 19, wherein generating the subsequent response includes updating header fields of the form response.

21. A server suitable for use in a data processing network, the sever including processor, storage, and input/output means, the storage containing server executable instructions for responding to a client request for an object, comprising:

computer code means for determining whether a static object form response corresponding to the requested object is available;

computer code means for updating a header in the form response based on the client request responsive to determining that a form response is available;

responsive to determining that a form response is not available:

computer code means for generating a response to the client request by retrieving the requested object and performing network protocol processing on the retrieved object;

computer code means for generating a form response indicative of the generated response; and

computer code means for storing the form response for use in responding to a subsequent request for the object.

22. The server of claim 21, wherein generating the request response comprises generating a set of packets formatted according to a network protocol.

23. The server of claim 22, wherein the network protocol is a TCP/IP protocol.

24. The server of claim 22, wherein the generating the form response further includes inserting at least one blank header field into the set of packets.

25. The server of claim 21, wherein determining whether a form response is available includes
5 accessing a static object directory indicative of the contents of a static object database.

26. The server of claim 25, wherein storing the form response comprises storing the form response in the static object database and updating the static object directory to reflect the inclusion of the form response in the database.

10 27. The server of claim 26, wherein at least a portion of the static object database is stored in main memory.

28. The server of claim 26, wherein at least a portion of the static object database is stored on
15 disk.

29. The server of claim 21, further comprising, responsive to a subsequent request for the object, generating a response to the subsequent request from the form response.

20 30. The server of claim 29, wherein generating the subsequent response includes updating header fields of the form response.